

Most of Deferments
For Federal Workers
Are Held Justified

Abuses Found in Probe
Stick Out Like Sore
Thumb, Tydings Says

The report of an investigation of draft deferments among Government employees, conducted by a special Senate committee, stated yesterday that while, on the whole, the privilege had not been abused, some glaring instances of unjustified avoidance of military service were found.

The committee, headed by Senator Tydings, Democrat, of Maryland, named to inquire into conditions in the executive branch of the Government, reported on this phase of its investigation:

"There have been frequent rumors that mass deferments from military service were being requested and granted to a large number of Government employees. We have investigated this matter throughout all the Government departments and agencies. It has been a rather heartening revelation to find that on the whole the privilege of requesting and granting deferments from military service to personnel in the National Government has not been abused. It is true that in some agencies a large number of employees have been deferred from the draft, but when the committee scrutinized the reason for these deferments it has been found generally that they were warranted in most cases.

Examples of Abuses.

"However, this is not to say there have not been a number of abuses. The abuses we have found stick out like a sore thumb against the record of most governmental agencies which have been confronted with the loss of valuable manpower."

The committee cited among examples of "highly questionable deferments" one department in which 12 men were located in one administrative unit.

"The unit," the committee explained, "has a total of only 42 clerical employees, but 28 per cent of the employees of this unit are deferments. These deferments would have been understandable if they were professional employees, occupied directly on war work, but such is not the case. Only these deferments are known as 'personnel officers.' How the deferment of these co-called 'personnel officers' can be claimed or granted because they are indispensable, rare or scarce is incomprehensible. To say that the work of this group is so demanding and requires such unusual abilities is ridiculous."

The committee added: "Let us see what background these men have which qualifies them for one of the 'hallowed' positions. Here is Mr. X, 21 years old, appointed in June, 1941, at a salary of \$1,620 per annum. Nine months later he had become such an expert in the field of 'personnel procedural surveys' that he was promoted and his salary raised \$1,000 a year. Further, four months after his appointment he had become such an indispensable cog in the administration of this department that it was necessary to have him deferred, and six months later, not being able to replace this highly indispensable 21-year-old expert, it was necessary to obtain a further deferment. That was the claim of the department for which he worked."

Not Even College Graduate.

"This seems to us clearly an abuse of the deferment privilege. Here is a young man who has just attained his 22d anniversary; he is not even a college graduate, which is unusual; he has never been employed other than as a student before entering the Government service. . . . Keeping in mind that his department has existed for many, many years. Are there no other employees in this department who had more than one year's experience and at least the equivalent of education to carry on the work that this young man of prime military age is performing? The department alleged there were none."

And the committee further cited: "Mr. Y is employed in this same department and in the same administrative unit. He is 22 years young; was appointed in November, 1940, at the age of 21, and by May, 1941, he had become such an expert in the recruiting of stenographers, economists and junior administrative personnel that he was so indispensable he had to be deferred; in March, 1942, he had continued to increase his expertise and enhance his indispensability to the extent that he was again deferred. Possibly his local board in Kansas has the impression that the Government of the United States would collapse without his expertise in recruiting stenographers."

Two other instances, almost identical, were given. The committee, commenting on one, that of a 23-year-old "expert," said: "The reasons for his deferment must have left his draft board in California with the impression that the agency, of cabinet rank and many years' existence in the Government structure, would surely collapse should he have to shoulder a gun."

"Another agency," the committee added, "which has been ordered by the War Production Board to cease using critical materials, thereby in-



NEW YORK.—WAAC CANDIDATES—Brunettes, redheads and blonds by the score form this impressive array in the armory where they are taking written examinations in hopes of becoming officers in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. —AP Wirephoto.

WAAC Training Camp
Adopts Army Routine
For Officer Training

Only Combat Instruction
To Be Left Off Course
For Feminine Leaders

By the Associated Press.

DES MOINES, Iowa, June 6.—Officer candidates for the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps are going to be taught everything a soldier needs to know except actual combat.

They'll learn personal hygiene, military drill, mess management, air raid defense and a host of other things.

And they'll be on a minute-by-minute schedule from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., six days of the week. Col. Don C. Faith, commander of the WAAC Officers' Training School at Fort Des Moines, said today in announcing courses for the program opening July 20.

Officer applicants for the WAAC now are being examined throughout the country and 440 of them will come here for training by regular Army officers and enlisted men before they start their own officer insignia and start training other women.

Seven Daily Classes.

The officer candidates will have seven 45-minute classes each day and 45 minutes of military drill in addition to the regular camp routine.

Sundays will be rest day and the women will be allowed freedom from the post, but must remain in Des Moines unless special leave is obtained and this will be given only in cases of emergency.

The courses the women will study are:

Military customs and courtesies, the punitive articles of war, W. A.

A. C. regulations, the wearing and care of uniform and equipment, military sanitation, first aid and personal hygiene.

Defense against chemical attack, wounds and gas casualties, leadership, mess management, map reading, methods of training, organization of the Army and of the W. A. A. C., current events, and defense against air attack.

The school will operate eight weeks. Following it will be a four-week basic training course for auxiliaries (privates) and an eight-week course for specialists. Eventually the entire complement of 25,000 W. A. A. C.'s will be trained here.

Follow Army Routine.

Col. Faith said the 150 Army enlisted men who will help train the women will start a refresher course Monday and officers a similar course June 15.

Man Waives Extradition
In Virginia Slaying

Richard H. Wines, 62, of Warrenton, Va., yesterday waived extradition and was returned there in connection with the fatal shooting and robbery of his landlord, Frank Kerns, 70, of May 28.

The body of Mr. Kerns was found on a road near Warrenton. He had been robbed of \$75 and a gold watch, police reported.

Pvt. Theodore E. Marquise of the First Precinct arrested Wines Friday at Tenth and I streets N.W. from a description broadcast by Warrenton police.

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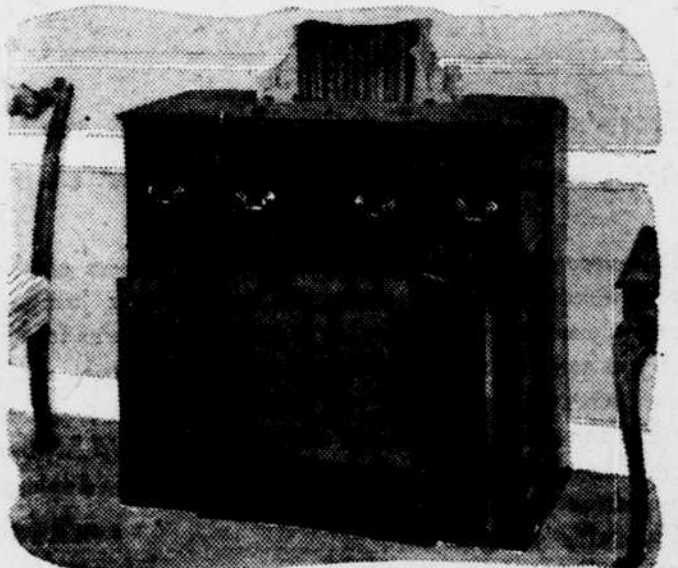
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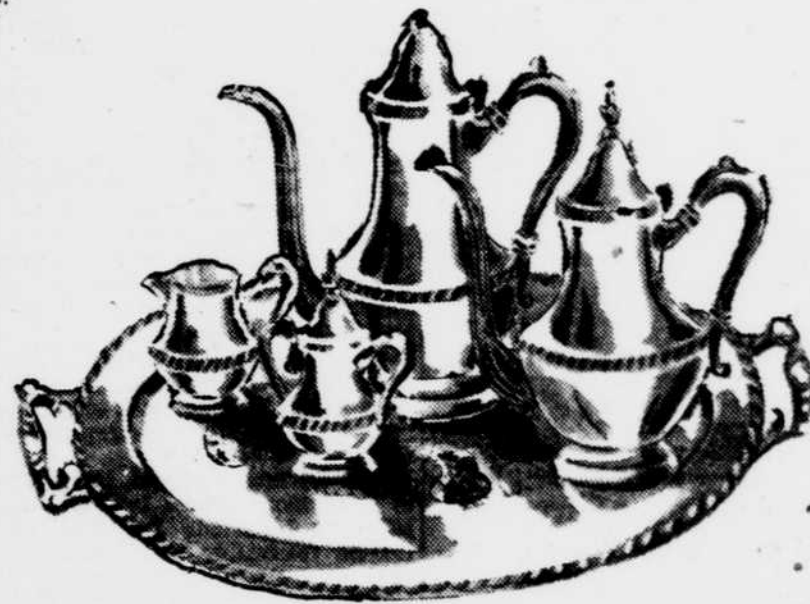
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